COVINGTON & BURLING LLP

1201 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004-2401 TEL 202.662.6000 FAX 202.662.6291 WWW.COV.COM BEIJING BRUSSELS LONDON NEW YORK SAN DIEGO SAN FRANCISCO SLIICON VALLEY WASHINGTON

May 1, 2012

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS & ELECTRONIC MAIL

Mr. James Carr
Office of General Counsel
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Carr:

We are writing to request confirmation of the position of the Office of General Counsel regarding whether the Office and undersigned counsel may confer on the issues raised in *Time Warner Cable, Inc. and National Cable & Telecommunications Association v. Federal Communications Commission*, No. 11-4138 (2d Cir. filed Oct. 11, 2011) [hereinafter *Time Warner*]. In that proceeding, petitioners challenge among other matters the Commission's recent revisions to its program carriage rules on First Amendment grounds.

Petitioners' First Amendment arguments in *Time Warner* are similar to those made by Comcast Cable Communications in a matter pending at the Commission as to which a client of this firm is an adverse party, *The Tennis Channel, Inc. v. Comcast Cable Communications LLC* [hereinafter *Tennis Channel*]. It is possible that this client (with or without other parties) will seek to file an *amicus curiae* brief in support of the Commission's position in the *Time Warner* proceeding.¹

The Commission's rules expressly exempt from the *ex parte* rules presentations "made by or to the General Counsel and his or her staff" concerning "judicial review of a matter that has been decided by the Commission." 47 C.F.R. § 1.1204(a)(2). Discussion of the

We note that the undersigned is also counsel for Game Show Network, LLC ("GSN") in Game Show Network, LLC v. Cablevision Systems Corporation, a matter that raises First Amendment arguments similar to those at issue in Time Warner. GSN does not currently intend to participate as an amicus in the Time Warner proceeding, and the undersigned is not presently authorized to represent GSN in that proceeding.

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positions taken in the *Time Warner* proceeding would fall within this exemption. Because there is substantial similarity in the arguments raised by the cable parties in the *Time Warner* and *Tennis Channel* proceedings, we seek confirmation that *ex parte* communications with members of the General Counsel's office responsible for briefing *Time Warner* will not constitute a violation of the *ex parte* rules as they apply in the *Tennis Channel* case.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Stephen A. Weiswasser COVINGTON & BURLING LLP 1201 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20004-2401 (202) 662-5508

Counsel to The Tennis Channel, Inc.

cc:

Michael P. Carroll
David B. Toscano
Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP
450 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York 10017

David H. Solomon J. Wade Lindsay Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP 2300 N Street, NW, Suite 700 Washington, D.C. 20037 James L. Casserly Michael D. Hurwitz Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP 1875 K Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20006

Miguel A. Estrada Cynthia Richman Gibson Dunn 1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036

Counsel to Comcast Cable Communications, LLC

Gary Oshinsky Investigations and Hearings Division, Enforcement Bureau Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W., Suite 4-C330 Washington, D.C. 20554 William Knowles-Kellett Investigations and Hearings Division, Enforcement Bureau Federal Communications Commission 1270 Fairfield Road Gettysburg, PA 17325

Counsel to the Enforcement Bureau